Appl. No.   09/917,522

<u>R E M A R K S</u>

Claim 28 has been amended. Claims 5 and 37 have been cancelled. Claims 1-4, 6-27, 29-36 and 38-46 stand as originally presented.

5   Claims 1-46 were considered in the Office Action.

Claims 1-10, 15, 17-23, 28, 29, 33-42 and 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Adams, U.S. Patent 6,401,222 B1. Claim 6 is provisionally objected to as being a substantial duplicate of claim 5. Claim 38 is

10   provisionally objected to as being a substantial duplicate of claim 37. Claims 11-14, 16, 24-27, 30-32 and 43-45 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The Applicant believes that the currently pending claims

15   are not anticipated by or obvious over the cited reference for at least the reasons set forth below, and respectfully requests reconsideration.

<u>Claim 1</u>

The cited reference does not disclose or suggest:

20   "A method, comprising:

detecting whether a floppy disk operation is a write; and,

masking DMA requests from at least one DMA channel during said write **thereby preventing data corruption**."

25   (Claim 1, emphasis added)

Although Adams discloses "masking the DMA channel" (col. 9, line 57), Adams does this to **cause** data corruption. For example, see Adams, col. 7, lines 50-54:

8

Appl. No. 09/917,522

This delay 60 forces defective FDCs 20 into an undetected data corruption condition. This condition can be tested 120 by reading back 118 the written data to see whether the last byte or the next-to-the-last byte was actually
5   written to the last byte location of the sector.

Adams does not disclose or suggest masking a DMA request to **prevent** data corruption, but to **cause** data corruption to identify a faulty floppy diskette controller. To anticipate a claim for a patent, a single prior source must contain all its
10   essential elements. Hybritech, Inc. v. Monoclonal Antibodies, Inc., 231 USPQ 81, 90 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

The Applicant believes that claim 1 is allowable over the cited reference and respectfully requests reconsideration.

Dependent claims 2-4 and 6-14 depend ultimately upon
15   independent claim 1 which is allowable over the cited art as discussed above. These dependent claims are likewise in condition for allowance at least because they depend on an allowable independent claim. However, dependent claims 2-4 and 6-14 are independently allowable at least in that they
20   recite particular features which, when combined with the elements of the independent claim, are not disclosed or suggested in the cited references. For example, claims 11-14 have been indicated by the Examiner to contain allowable subject matter.

25   Claim 15

The cited references do not disclose or suggest:

"An apparatus, comprising:
a floppy disk controller receiving data via DMA accesses under the control of a DMA controller **wherein said DMA**
30   **controller ignores at least one DMA request line when an underrun error may occur.**"

9

Appl. No.   09/917,522

(Claim 15, emphasis added)

Adams, particularly in the portion cited in the Office
Action mailed June 9, 2004, discloses the **delaying** of a "DMA
transfer of the last byte of the sector transfer."   (Adams,
5   col. 7, lines 37-48). Adams does not disclose ignoring a DMA
request line, Adams discloses delaying a DMA transfer. As
discussed above, this is done to cause data corruption,
thereby identifying a faulty floppy diskette controller.
Applicants respectfully disagree that this **delaying** of a DMA
10   transfer discloses or suggests **ignoring** at least one DMA
request line. Again, to anticipate a claim for a patent, a
single prior source must contain all its essential elements.
Hybritech, Inc. v. Monoclonal Antibodies, Inc., supra.
       The Applicant believes that claim 15 is allowable over
15   the cited references and respectfully requests
reconsideration.
       Dependent claims 16-27 depend ultimately upon independent
claim 15 which is allowable over the cited art as discussed
above. These dependent claims are likewise in condition for
20   allowance at least because they depend on an allowable
independent claim. However, dependent claims 16-27 are
independently allowable at least in that they recite
particular features which, when combined with the elements of
the independent claim, are not disclosed or suggested in the
25   cited references. For example, claims 16 and 24-27 have been
indicated by the Examiner to contain allowable subject matter.

<u>Claim 28</u>
The cited references do not disclose or suggest:

30   "An apparatus, comprising:

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Appl. No.   09/917,522

a DMA controller in communication with a floppy disk
controller; and,

means for masking at least one DMA request line when a
DMA underrun may occur due to an improperly designed floppy

5   disk controller, **wherein said at least one DMA request line
has a higher priority than a DMA request line associated with
said floppy disk controller.**"

(Claim 28, as amended, emphasis added)

Adams does not disclose or suggest masking a DMA request

10   line with a higher priority than a DMA request line associated
with the floppy disk controller. For example, Adams discloses
that "[o]n the last byte being transferred, the data byte may
be delayed by either activating a higher priority DMA 18
channel or **masking the DMA channel of the FDC 20.**" (Adams,

15   col. 9, lines 55-57, emphasis added) As discussed above,
Adams is directed to causing data corruption, thereby
identifying a faulty floppy diskette controller. Accordingly,
Adams discloses masking the DMA channel of the floppy disk
controller, not a DMA request line having a higher priority.

20   The Applicant believes that claim 28 is allowable over
the cited reference and respectfully requests reconsideration.

Dependent claims 29-32 depend ultimately upon independent
claim 1 which is allowable over the cited art as discussed
above. These dependent claims are likewise in condition for

25   allowance at least because they depend on an allowable
independent claim. However, dependent claims 29-32 are
independently allowable at least in that they recite
particular features which, when combined with the elements of
the independent claim, are not disclosed or suggested in the

30   cited references. For example, claims 30-32 have been
indicated by the Examiner to contain allowable subject matter.

11

Appl. No.   09/917,522

Claim 33

The cited references do not disclose or suggest:

"A program storage medium readable by a computer,
tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
5   computer to perform method steps, said method steps
comprising:
         detecting whether a floppy disk operation is a write;
and, masking DMA requests from at least one DMA channel during
said write **thereby preventing data corruption**."
10   (Claim 33, emphasis added)

         The arguments set forth above with respect to claim 1 are
repeated here, but specifically directed to the program
storage medium of claim 33.
         The Applicant believes that claim 33 is allowable over
15   the cited reference and respectfully requests reconsideration.
         Dependent claims 34-36 and 38-46 depend ultimately upon
independent claim 1 which is allowable over the cited art as
discussed above. These dependent claims are likewise in
condition for allowance at least because they depend on an
20   allowable independent claim. However, dependent claims 34-36
and 38-46 are independently allowable at least in that they
recite particular features which, when combined with the
elements of the independent claim, are not disclosed or
suggested in the cited references. For example, claims 43-45
25   have been indicated by the Examiner to contain allowable
subject matter.

12

Appl. No.   09/917,522

The Applicant believes that the currently pending claims are allowable over the cited reference and respectfully requests the timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,
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13